

# Support Vector Machines

---

Nipun Batra

IIT Gandhinagar

August 1, 2025

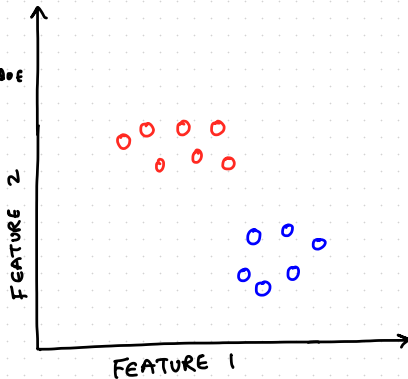
# Outline

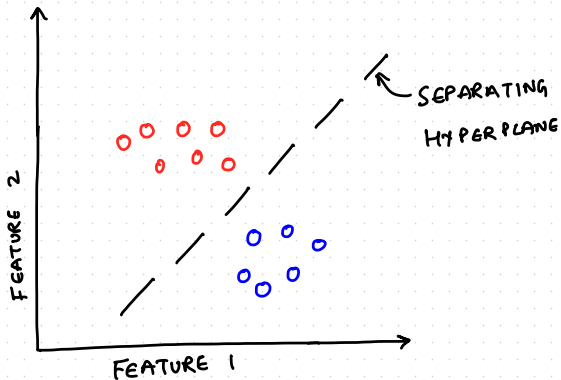
1. Introduction and Motivation
2. Mathematical Foundation
3. SVM Formulation
4. Worked Example
5. Kernel Methods
  - 5.1 Kernel Motivation
  - 5.2 Kernel Examples
  - 5.3 Kernel Properties
6. Summary

# SUPPORT VECTOR MACHINES

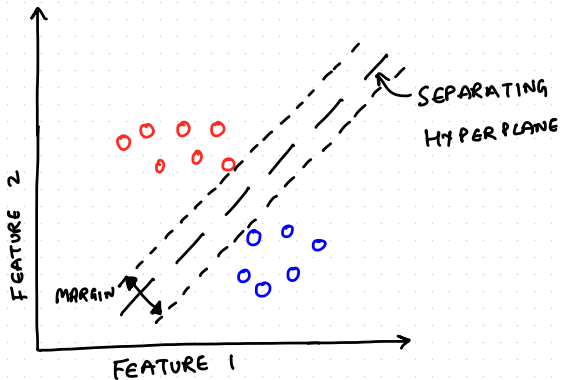
POPULAR BINARY

CLASSIFICATION TECHNIQUE

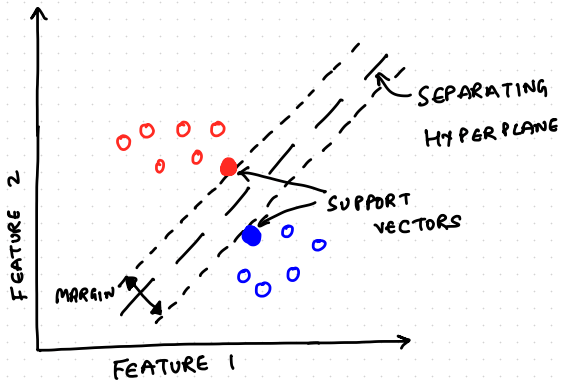




IDEA: DRAW A SEPARATING HYPER PLANE



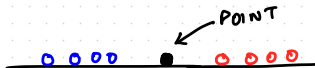
IDEA: MAXIMIZE THE MARGIN



SUPPORT VECTORS: POINTS ON BOUNDARY | MARGIN

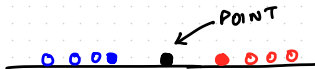
HYPERPLANE vs # DIMENSIONS

1D

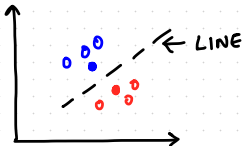


# HYPERPLANE VS # DIMENSIONS

1D



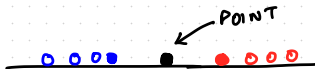
2D



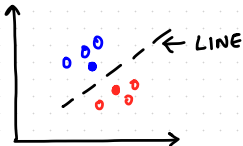


# HYPERPLANE VS # DIMENSIONS

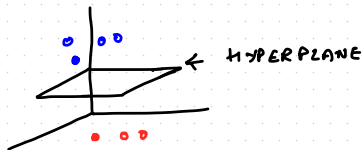
1D



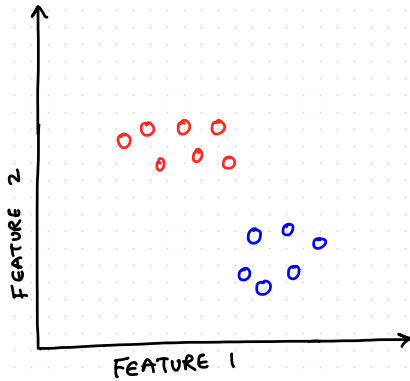
2D



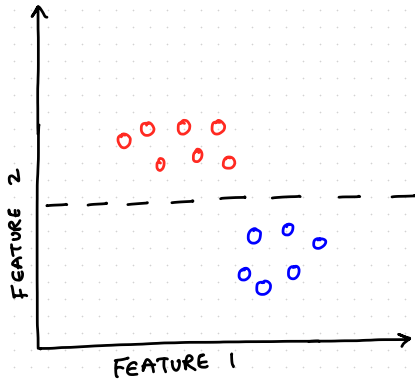
3D  
(AND  
MORE)



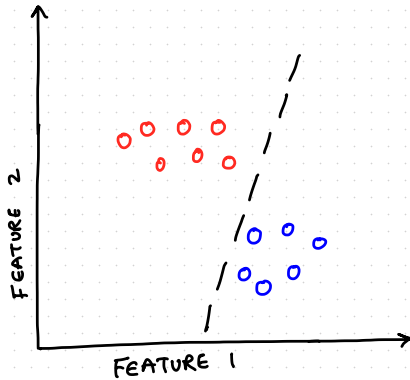
WHICH HYPER PLANE?



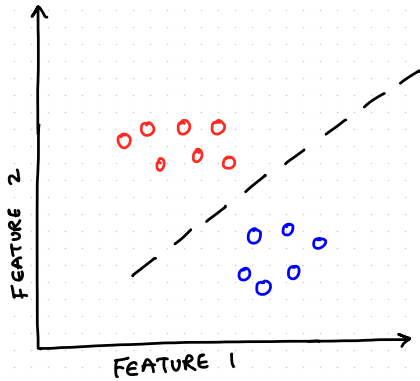
WHICH HYPER PLANE?



WHICH HYPER PLANE?

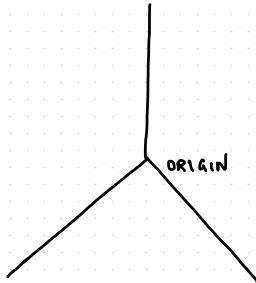


WHICH HYPERPLANE?

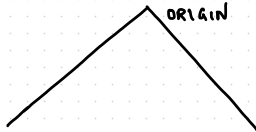


## EQUATION OF HYPERPLANE

How to define?

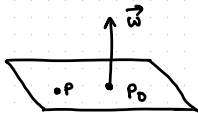


## EQUATION OF HYPERPLANE

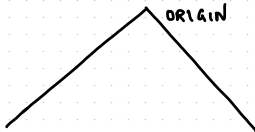


$P$ : Any point on plane  
 $P_0$ : One point on plane

## EQUATION OF HYPERPLANE

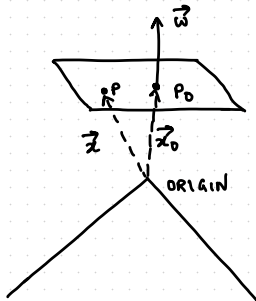


$\vec{w}$ :  $\perp$  vector to  
plane at  $P_0$



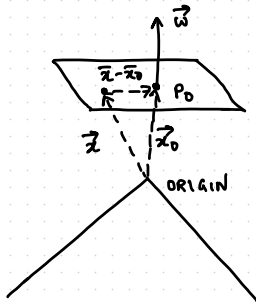


## EQUATION OF HYPERPLANE



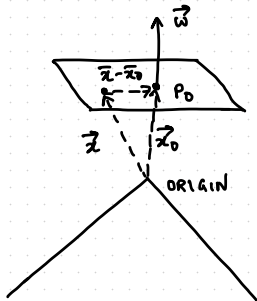
$P$  and  $P_0$  lie on plane

## EQUATION OF HYPERPLANE



$\vec{P}P_0 = \vec{x} - \vec{x}_0$  lies on plane

## EQUATION OF HYPERPLANE



$\vec{P}P_0 = \vec{x} - \vec{x}_0$  lies on plane

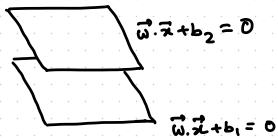
$$\Rightarrow \vec{w} \perp (\vec{x} - \vec{x}_0)$$

$$\text{or, } \vec{w} \cdot (\vec{x} - \vec{x}_0) = 0$$

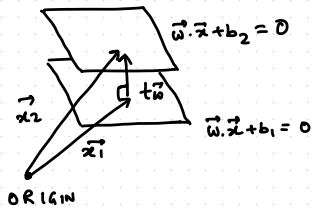
$$\text{or, } \vec{w} \cdot \vec{x} - \vec{w} \cdot \vec{x}_0 = 0$$

$$\text{or, } \boxed{\vec{w} \cdot \vec{x} + b = 0}$$

## DISTANCE B/W || HYPER PLANES



## DISTANCE B/W || HYPER PLANES



# Distance between 2 parallel hyperplanes

Equation of two planes is:

$$\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x} + b_1 = 0$$

$$\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x} + b_2 = 0$$

# Distance between 2 parallel hyperplanes

Equation of two planes is:

$$\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x} + b_1 = 0$$

$$\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x} + b_2 = 0$$

For a point  $\mathbf{x}_1$  on plane 1 and  $\mathbf{x}_2$  on plane 2, we have:

# Distance between 2 parallel hyperplanes

Equation of two planes is:

$$\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x} + b_1 = 0$$

$$\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x} + b_2 = 0$$

For a point  $\mathbf{x}_1$  on plane 1 and  $\mathbf{x}_2$  on plane 2, we have:

$$\mathbf{x}_2 = \mathbf{x}_1 + t\mathbf{w}$$

$$D = |t\mathbf{w}| = |t|\|\mathbf{w}\|$$



# Distance between 2 parallel hyperplanes

Equation of two planes is:

$$\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x} + b_1 = 0$$

$$\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x} + b_2 = 0$$

For a point  $\mathbf{x}_1$  on plane 1 and  $\mathbf{x}_2$  on plane 2, we have:

$$\mathbf{x}_2 = \mathbf{x}_1 + t\mathbf{w}$$

$$D = |t\mathbf{w}| = |t| \|\mathbf{w}\|$$

We can rewrite as follows:

# Distance between 2 parallel hyperplanes

Equation of two planes is:

$$\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x} + b_1 = 0$$

$$\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x} + b_2 = 0$$

For a point  $\mathbf{x}_1$  on plane 1 and  $\mathbf{x}_2$  on plane 2, we have:

$$\mathbf{x}_2 = \mathbf{x}_1 + t\mathbf{w}$$

$$D = |t\mathbf{w}| = |t| \|\mathbf{w}\|$$

We can rewrite as follows:

$$\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x}_2 + b_2 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{w} \cdot (\mathbf{x}_1 + t\mathbf{w}) + b_2 = 0$$

# Distance between 2 parallel hyperplanes

Equation of two planes is:

$$\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x} + b_1 = 0$$

$$\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x} + b_2 = 0$$

For a point  $\mathbf{x}_1$  on plane 1 and  $\mathbf{x}_2$  on plane 2, we have:

$$\mathbf{x}_2 = \mathbf{x}_1 + t\mathbf{w}$$

$$D = |t\mathbf{w}| = |t|\|\mathbf{w}\|$$

We can rewrite as follows:

$$\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x}_2 + b_2 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{w} \cdot (\mathbf{x}_1 + t\mathbf{w}) + b_2 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x}_1 + t\|\mathbf{w}\|^2 + b_1 - b_1 + b_2 = 0 \Rightarrow t = \frac{b_1 - b_2}{\|\mathbf{w}\|^2} \Rightarrow D = t\|\mathbf{w}\| = \frac{|b_1 - b_2|}{\|\mathbf{w}\|}$$

# Pop Quiz #1

## Quick Question!

If two parallel hyperplanes are given by:

- $\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x} + 3 = 0$

And  $\|\mathbf{w}\| = 2$ , what is the distance between them?

# Pop Quiz #1

## Quick Question!

If two parallel hyperplanes are given by:

- $\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x} + 3 = 0$
- $\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x} - 1 = 0$

And  $\|\mathbf{w}\| = 2$ , what is the distance between them?

# Pop Quiz #1

## Quick Question!

If two parallel hyperplanes are given by:

- $\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x} + 3 = 0$
- $\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x} - 1 = 0$

And  $\|\mathbf{w}\| = 2$ , what is the distance between them?

# Pop Quiz #1

## Quick Question!

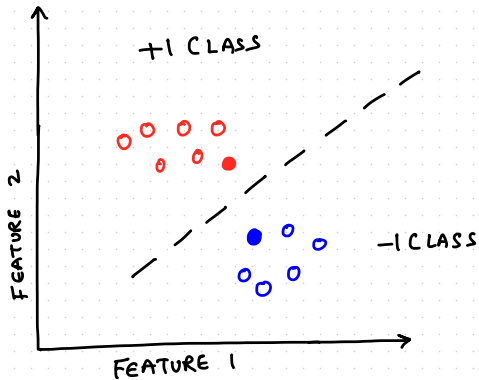
If two parallel hyperplanes are given by:

- $\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x} + 3 = 0$
- $\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x} - 1 = 0$

And  $\|\mathbf{w}\| = 2$ , what is the distance between them?

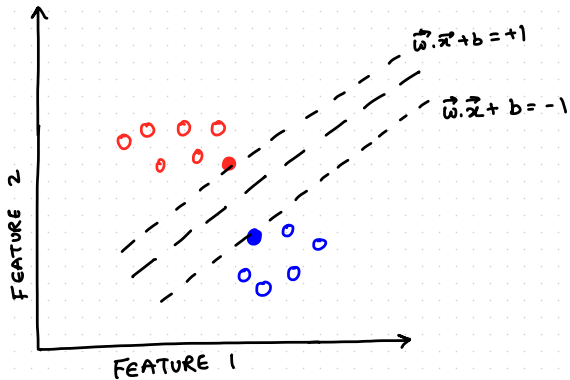
**Answer:**  $D = \frac{|3 - (-1)|}{2} = \frac{4}{2} = 2$  units

## FORMULATION

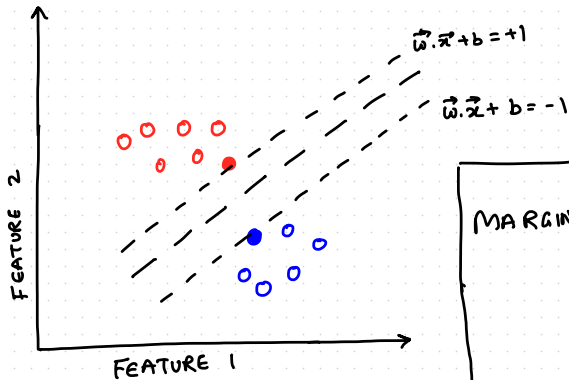




## FORMULATION

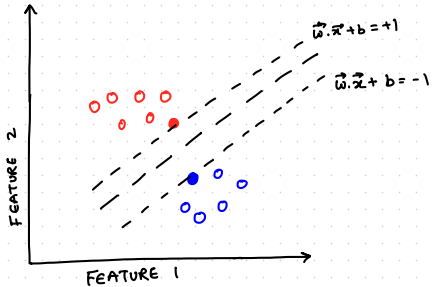


## FORMULATION



$$\begin{aligned} \text{MARGIN} &= \frac{(b+1) - (b-1)}{\|\vec{w}\|} \\ &= \frac{2}{\|\vec{w}\|} \end{aligned}$$

## FORMULATION



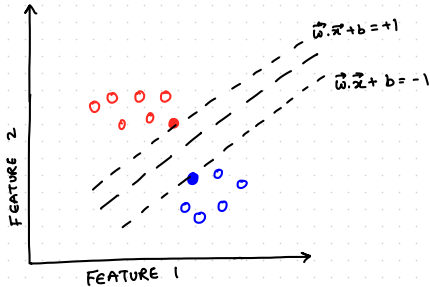
GOAL: MAXIMIZE MARGIN

$$\Rightarrow \text{MAXIMIZE } \frac{2}{\|\vec{w}\|}$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{MINIMIZE } \|\vec{w}\|$$

S.T. Correctly label points

## FORMULATION



GOAL: MAXIMIZE MARGIN

$$\Rightarrow \text{MAXIMIZE } \frac{2}{\|\vec{w}\|}$$

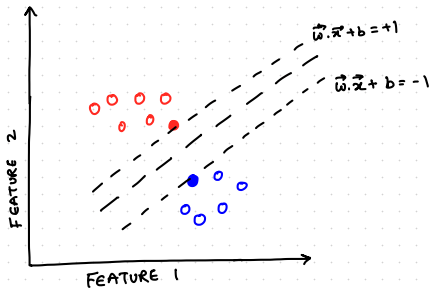
$$\Rightarrow \text{MINIMIZE } \|\vec{w}\|$$

S.T. Correctly label points

i.e. if  $y_i = -1$   
 $\vec{w} \cdot \vec{x} + b \leq -1$

if  $y_i = +1$   
 $\vec{w} \cdot \vec{x} + b \geq +1$

## FORMULATION



GOAL: MAXIMIZE MARGIN

$$\Rightarrow \text{MAXIMIZE } \frac{2}{\|\vec{w}\|}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\text{MINIMIZE } \|\vec{w}\|}$$

S.T. correctly label points

i.e. if  $y_i = -1$   
 $\vec{w} \cdot \vec{x} + b \leq -1$

if  $y_i = +1$   
 $\vec{w} \cdot \vec{x} + b \geq 1$

$$\boxed{y_i (\vec{w} \cdot \vec{x} + b) \geq 1}$$

# Primal Formulation

Objective

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{minimize } \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{w}\|^2 \\ & \text{subject to } \mathbf{y}_i(\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x}_i + b) \geq 1 \quad \forall i \end{aligned}$$

# Primal Formulation

Objective

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{minimize } \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{w}\|^2 \\ & \text{subject to } \mathbf{y}_i(\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x}_i + b) \geq 1 \quad \forall i \end{aligned}$$

Q) What is  $\|\mathbf{w}\|$ ?

# Primal Formulation

## Objective

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{minimize } \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{w}\|^2 \\ & \text{subject to } \mathbf{y}_i(\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x}_i + b) \geq 1 \quad \forall i \end{aligned}$$

Q) What is  $\|\mathbf{w}\|$ ?

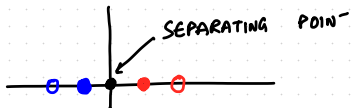
$$\mathbf{w} = \begin{bmatrix} w_1 \\ w_2 \\ \vdots \\ w_n \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\|\mathbf{w}\| = \sqrt{\mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{w}}$$

$$= \sqrt{\begin{bmatrix} w_1 & w_2 & \cdots & w_n \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} w_1 \\ w_2 \\ \vdots \\ w_n \end{bmatrix}}$$



EXAMPLE (IN 1D)



# Simple Exercise

$$\begin{bmatrix} x & y \\ 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 \\ -1 & -1 \\ -2 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Separating Hyperplane:  $\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x} + b = 0$

# Simple Exercise

$$y_i(\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x}_i + b) \geq 1$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 & y \\ 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 \\ -1 & -1 \\ -2 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

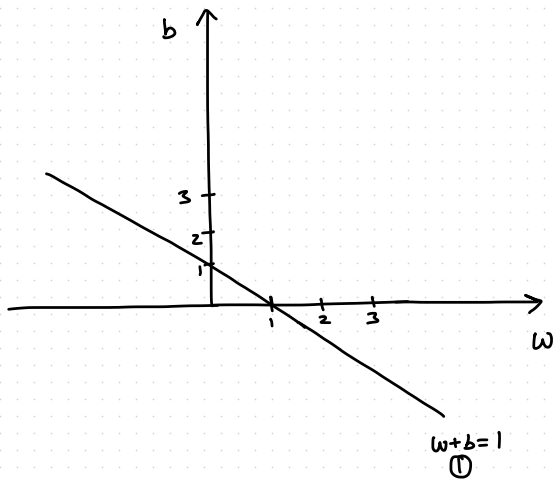
$$\Rightarrow y_i(\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x}_i + b) \geq 1$$

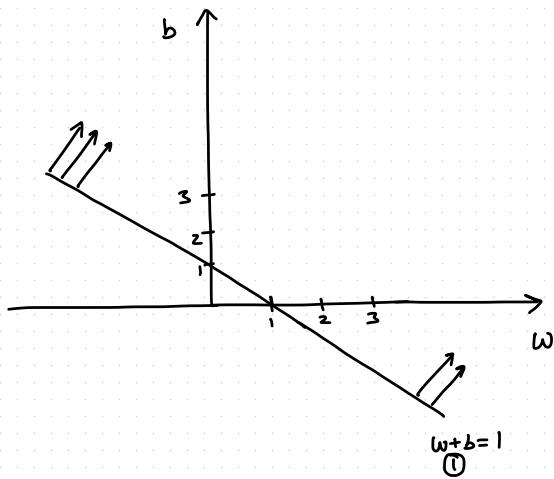
$$\Rightarrow 1(\mathbf{w} \cdot 1 + b) \geq 1$$

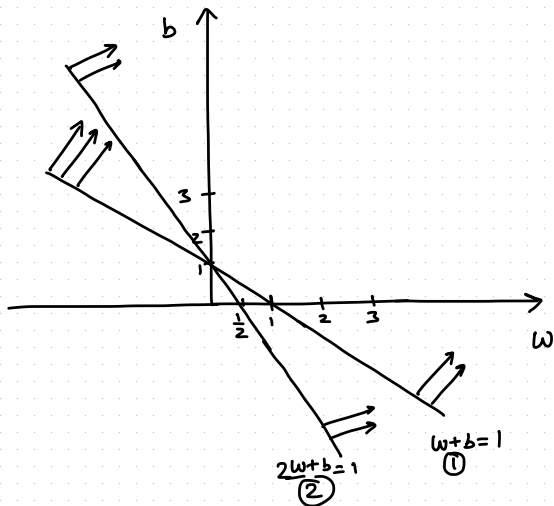
$$\Rightarrow 1(\mathbf{w} \cdot 2 + b) \geq 1$$

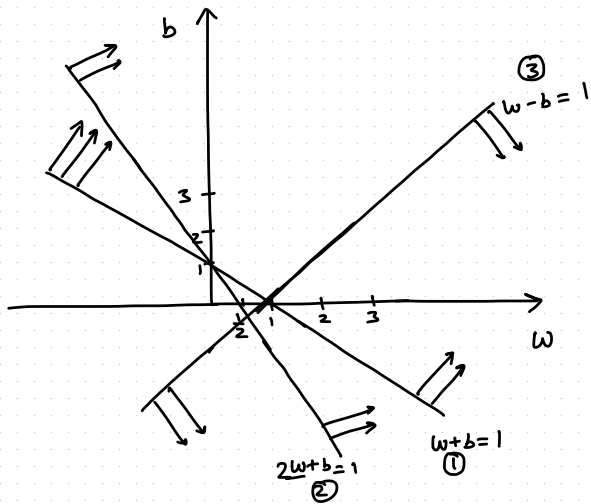
$$\Rightarrow -1(\mathbf{w} \cdot (-1) + b) \geq 1$$

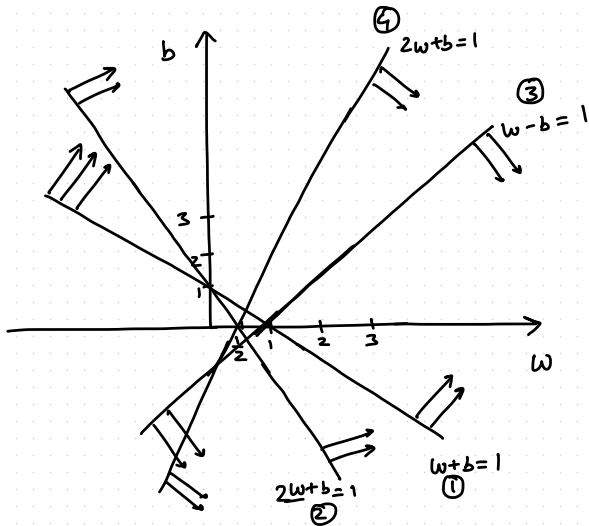
$$\Rightarrow -1(\mathbf{w} \cdot (-2) + b) \geq 1$$



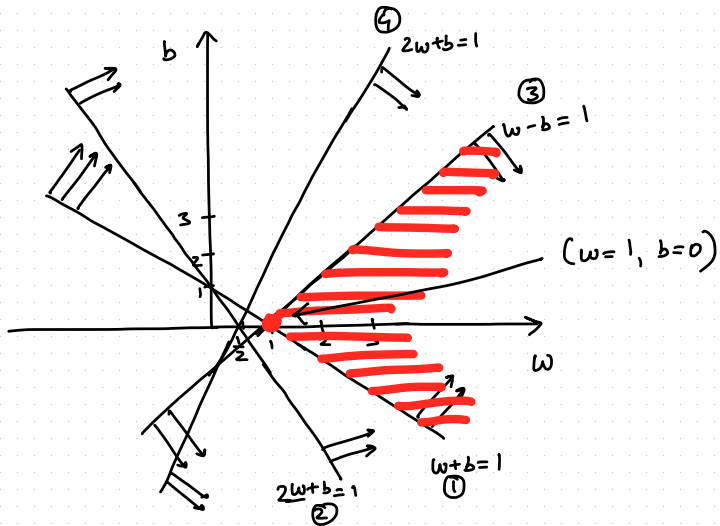












# Simple Exercise

$$w_{min} = 1, b = 0$$

$$w.x + b = 0$$

$$x = 0$$

# Simple Exercise

Minimum values satisfying constraints  $\Rightarrow w = 1$  and  $b = 0$   
 $\therefore$  Max margin classifier  $\Rightarrow x = 0$

## Pop Quiz #2

### Think About This!

In our simple 1D example, why did we choose  $w = 1$  and  $b = 0$  as the optimal solution?

## Pop Quiz #2

### Think About This!

In our simple 1D example, why did we choose  $w = 1$  and  $b = 0$  as the optimal solution?

- Is this the **only** solution that separates the data?

## Pop Quiz #2

### Think About This!

In our simple 1D example, why did we choose  $w = 1$  and  $b = 0$  as the optimal solution?

- Is this the **only** solution that separates the data?
- What makes this solution **optimal** for SVM?

## Pop Quiz #2

### Think About This!

In our simple 1D example, why did we choose  $w = 1$  and  $b = 0$  as the optimal solution?

- Is this the **only** solution that separates the data?
- What makes this solution **optimal** for SVM?

## Pop Quiz #2

### Think About This!

In our simple 1D example, why did we choose  $w = 1$  and  $b = 0$  as the optimal solution?

- Is this the **only** solution that separates the data?
- What makes this solution **optimal** for SVM?

**Answer:** No, infinitely many solutions exist (e.g.,  $w = 2, b = 0$  or  $w = 0.5, b = 0$ ).

SVM chooses  $w = 1, b = 0$  because it minimizes  $\|\mathbf{w}\|^2$  while satisfying all constraints!



# Primal Formulation is a Quadratic Program

Generally;

⇒ Minimize Quadratic(x)

⇒ such that, Linear(x)

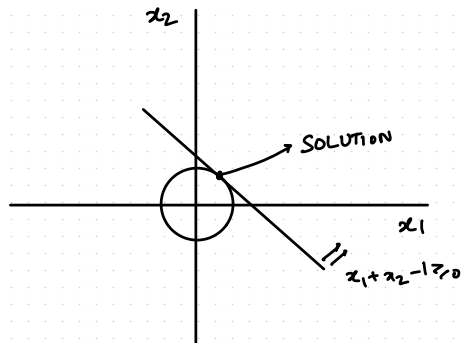
Question

$$x = (x_1, x_2)$$

$$\text{minimize } \frac{1}{2} \|x\|^2$$

$$: x_1 + x_2 - 1 \geq 0$$

MINIMIZE QUADRATIC  
S.t. LINEAR



# Converting to Dual Problem

Primal  $\Rightarrow$  Dual Conversion using Lagrangian multipliers

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{Minimize } \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{w}\|^2 \\ &\text{s.t. } y_i(\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x}_i + b) \geq 1 \\ &\quad \forall i \end{aligned}$$

$$L(\mathbf{w}, b, \alpha) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^d w_i^2 - \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i (y_i(\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x}_i + b) - 1) \quad \forall \alpha_i \geq 0$$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial b} = 0 \Rightarrow \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i y_i = 0$$

# Converting to Dual Problem

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \mathbf{w}} = 0 \Rightarrow \mathbf{w} - \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i y_i \mathbf{x}_i = 0$$

$$\mathbf{w} = \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i y_i \mathbf{x}_i$$

$$L(\mathbf{w}, b, \alpha) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^d w_i^2 - \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i (y_i (\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x}_i + b) - 1)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{w}\|^2 - \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i y_i \mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x}_i - \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i y_i b + \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i + \frac{(\sum_i \alpha_i y_i \mathbf{x}_i) \cdot (\sum_j \alpha_j y_j \mathbf{x}_j)}{2} - \sum_i \alpha_i y_i \left( \sum_j \alpha_j y_j \mathbf{x}_j \right) \cdot \mathbf{x}_i$$

# Converting to Dual Problem

$$L(\alpha) = \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^N \alpha_i \alpha_j y_i y_j \mathbf{x}_i \cdot \mathbf{x}_j$$

Minimize $\ \mathbf{w}\ ^2$	$\Rightarrow$	Maximize $L(\alpha)$
s.t		s.t
$y_i (\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x}_i + b) \geq 1$		$\sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i y_i = 0 \quad \forall \alpha_i \geq 0$

## Pop Quiz #3

### Lagrangian Mystery!

Why do we convert the primal SVM problem to its dual formulation?

## Pop Quiz #3

### Lagrangian Mystery!

Why do we convert the primal SVM problem to its dual formulation?

**Hint:** Think about what the dual formulation enables us to do that the primal doesn't...

## Pop Quiz #3

### Lagrangian Mystery!

Why do we convert the primal SVM problem to its dual formulation?

**Hint:** Think about what the dual formulation enables us to do that the primal doesn't...

**Answer:** The dual formulation enables the **kernel trick!**

- Primal:  $w$  appears explicitly  $\rightarrow$  no kernels



## Pop Quiz #3

### Lagrangian Mystery!

Why do we convert the primal SVM problem to its dual formulation?

**Hint:** Think about what the dual formulation enables us to do that the primal doesn't...

**Answer:** The dual formulation enables the **kernel trick!**

- Primal:  $w$  appears explicitly  $\rightarrow$  no kernels
- Dual: Only dot products  $x_i \cdot x_j$  appear  $\rightarrow$  can replace with  $K(x_i, x_j)$

# Question: KKT Complementary Slackness

## Question:

$\alpha_i (y_i (\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x}_i + b) - 1) = 0 \quad \forall i$  as per KKT slackness

What is  $\alpha_i$  for support vector points?

**Answer:** For support vectors,

$$\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x}_i + b = -1 \quad (\text{for } y_i = -1)$$

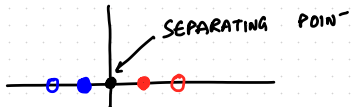
$$\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x}_i + b = +1 \quad (\text{for } y_i = +1)$$

$$y_i (\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x}_i + b) - 1 = 0 \quad \text{for } i \in \{\text{support vector points}\}$$

$$\therefore \alpha_i \neq 0 \quad \text{where } i \in \{\text{support vector points}\}$$

For all non-support vector points:  $\alpha_i = 0$

EXAMPLE (IN 1D)



## Revisiting the Simple Example

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 & y \\ 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 \\ -1 & -1 \\ -2 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$L(\alpha) = \sum_{i=1}^4 \alpha_i - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^4 \sum_{j=1}^4 \alpha_i \alpha_j y_i y_j x_i x_j \quad \alpha_i \geq 0$$

$$\sum \alpha_i y_i = 0 \quad \alpha_i (y_i (w \cdot x_i + b) - 1) = 0$$

## Pop Quiz #4

### Support Vector Challenge!

In our 1D example with data points  $\{(1, +1), (2, +1), (-1, -1), (-2, -1)\}$ , which points will be the support vectors?

## Pop Quiz #4

### Support Vector Challenge!

In our 1D example with data points  $\{(1, +1), (2, +1), (-1, -1), (-2, -1)\}$ , which points will be the support vectors?

**Think:** Support vectors are the closest points to the decision boundary that actively constrain the solution.

## Pop Quiz #4

### Support Vector Challenge!

In our 1D example with data points  $\{(1, +1), (2, +1), (-1, -1), (-2, -1)\}$ , which points will be the support vectors?

**Think:** Support vectors are the closest points to the decision boundary that actively constrain the solution.

**Answer:** Points  $(1, +1)$  and  $(-1, -1)$  are the support vectors!

- These are closest to the decision boundary  $x = 0$

## Pop Quiz #4

### Support Vector Challenge!

In our 1D example with data points  $\{(1, +1), (2, +1), (-1, -1), (-2, -1)\}$ , which points will be the support vectors?

**Think:** Support vectors are the closest points to the decision boundary that actively constrain the solution.

**Answer:** Points  $(1, +1)$  and  $(-1, -1)$  are the support vectors!

- These are closest to the decision boundary  $x = 0$
- They satisfy  $y_i(w \cdot x_i + b) = 1$  exactly



## Pop Quiz #4

### Support Vector Challenge!

In our 1D example with data points  $\{(1, +1), (2, +1), (-1, -1), (-2, -1)\}$ , which points will be the support vectors?

**Think:** Support vectors are the closest points to the decision boundary that actively constrain the solution.

**Answer:** Points  $(1, +1)$  and  $(-1, -1)$  are the support vectors!

- These are closest to the decision boundary  $x = 0$
- They satisfy  $y_i(w \cdot x_i + b) = 1$  exactly
- Points  $(2, +1)$  and  $(-2, -1)$  are farther away  $\Rightarrow \alpha = 0$

# Revisiting the Simple Example

$$\begin{aligned} L(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3, \alpha_4) = & \alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \alpha_3 + \alpha_4 \\ & - \frac{1}{2} \{ \alpha_1 \alpha_1 \times (1 * 1) \times (1 * 1) \\ & + \\ & \alpha_1 \alpha_2 \times (1 * 1) \times (1 * 2) \\ & + \\ & \alpha_1 \alpha_3 \times (1 * -1) \times (1 * 1) \\ & \dots \\ & \alpha_4 \alpha_4 \times (-1 * -1) \times (-2 * -2) \} \end{aligned}$$

How to Solve?  $\Rightarrow$  Use the QP Solver!!

## Revisiting the Simple Example

For the trivial example,

We know that only  $x = \pm 1$  will take part in the constraint actively. Thus,  $\alpha_2, \alpha_4 = 0$

By symmetry,  $\alpha_1 = \alpha_3 = \alpha$  (say)

&  $\sum y_i \alpha_i = 0$

$$L(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3, \alpha_4) = 2\alpha$$

$$\begin{aligned} & - \frac{1}{2} \{ \alpha^2(1)(-1)(1)(-1) \\ & \quad + \alpha^2(-1)(1)(-1)(1) \\ & \quad + \alpha^2(1)(1)(1)(1) + \alpha^2(-1)(-1)(-1)(-1) \} \end{aligned}$$

$$\underset{\alpha}{\text{Maximize}} \quad 2\alpha - \frac{1}{2}(4\alpha^2)$$

## Revisiting the Simple Example

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \alpha} (2\alpha - 2\alpha^2) = 0 \Rightarrow 2 - 4\alpha = 0$$
$$\Rightarrow \alpha = 1/2$$

$$\therefore \alpha_1 = 1/2 \quad \alpha_2 = 0; \quad \alpha_3 = 1/2 \quad \alpha_4 = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{w} &= \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i y_i \bar{\mathbf{x}}_i = 1/2 \times 1 \times 1 + 0 \times 1 \times 2 \\ &\quad + 1/2 \times -1 \times -1 + 0 \times -1 \times -2 \\ &= 1/2 + 1/2 = 1 \end{aligned}$$

# Revisiting the Simple Example

## Finding $b$ :

For the support vectors we have,

$$y_i(\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x}_i + b) - 1 = 0$$

$$\text{or, } y_i (\bar{\mathbf{w}} \cdot \bar{\mathbf{x}}_i + b) = 1$$

$$\text{or, } y_i^2 (\bar{\mathbf{w}} \cdot \bar{\mathbf{x}}_i + b) = y_i$$

$$\text{or, } \bar{\mathbf{w}} \cdot \bar{\mathbf{x}}_i + b = y_i \quad (\because y_i^2 = 1)$$

$$\text{or, } b = y_i - \bar{\mathbf{w}} \cdot \bar{\mathbf{x}}_i$$

$$\text{In practice, } b = \frac{1}{N_{SV}} \sum_{i=1}^{N_{SV}} (y_i - \bar{\mathbf{w}} \cdot \bar{\mathbf{x}}_i)$$

## Obtaining the Solution

$$\begin{aligned}b &= \frac{1}{2}\{(1 - (1)(1)) + (-1 - (1)(-1))\} \\&= \frac{1}{2}\{0 + 0\} = 0 \\&= 0 \\ \therefore w &= 1 \text{ \& } b = 0\end{aligned}$$

# Making Predictions

## Making Predictions

$$\hat{y}(x_i) = \text{SIGN}(w \cdot x_i + b)$$

For  $x_{\text{test}} = 3$ ;  $\hat{y}(3) = \text{SIGN}(1 \times 3 + 0) = +\text{ve class}$

# Making Predictions

Alternatively,

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{\mathbf{y}}(\mathbf{x}_{\text{test}}) &= \text{sign}(\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x}_{\text{test}} + b) \\ &= \text{sign}\left(\sum_{j=1}^{N_{\text{SV}}} \alpha_j y_j \mathbf{x}_j \cdot \mathbf{x}_{\text{test}} + b\right)\end{aligned}$$

In our example,

$$\alpha_1 = 1/2; \alpha_2 = 0; \quad \alpha_3 = 1/2; \alpha_4 = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{\mathbf{y}}(3) &= \text{sign}\left(\frac{1}{2} \times 1 \times (1 \times 3) + 0 + \frac{1}{2} \times (-1) \times (-1 \times 3) + 0\right) \\ &= \text{sign}\left(\frac{6}{2}\right) = \text{sign}(3) = +1\end{aligned}$$



## Pop Quiz #5

### Prediction Power!

We found our SVM solution:  $w = 1, b = 0$ . Let's test it!

What will our SVM predict for the test point  $x_{\text{test}} = -0.5$ ?

## Pop Quiz #5

### Prediction Power!

We found our SVM solution:  $w = 1, b = 0$ . Let's test it!

What will our SVM predict for the test point  $x_{\text{test}} = -0.5$ ?

**Method 1:** Direct:  $\hat{y}(-0.5) = \text{sign}(1 \times (-0.5) + 0) = \text{sign}(-0.5) = -1$

## Pop Quiz #5

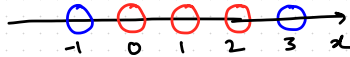
### Prediction Power!

We found our SVM solution:  $w = 1, b = 0$ . Let's test it!

What will our SVM predict for the test point  $x_{\text{test}} = -0.5$ ?

**Method 1:** Direct:  $\hat{y}(-0.5) = \text{sign}(1 \times (-0.5) + 0) = \text{sign}(-0.5) = -1$

**Method 2:** Using support vectors:  $\hat{y}(-0.5) = \text{sign}(\frac{1}{2} \times 1 \times 1 \times (-0.5) + \frac{1}{2} \times (-1) \times (-1) \times (-0.5)) = \text{sign}(-0.5) = -1$  (Correct!)



ORIGINAL DATA  
IN R

# Non-Linearly Separable Data

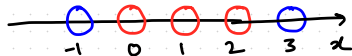
- Data is not linearly separable in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ .

# Non-Linearly Separable Data

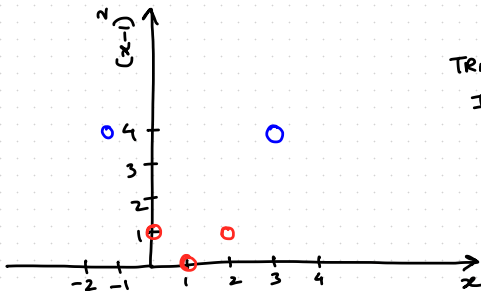
- Data is not linearly separable in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ .
- Can we still use SVM?

# Non-Linearly Separable Data

- Data is not linearly separable in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ .
- Can we still use SVM?
- Yes! Project data to a higher dimensional space.

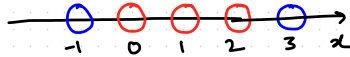


ORIGINAL DATA  
IN  $\mathbb{R}$

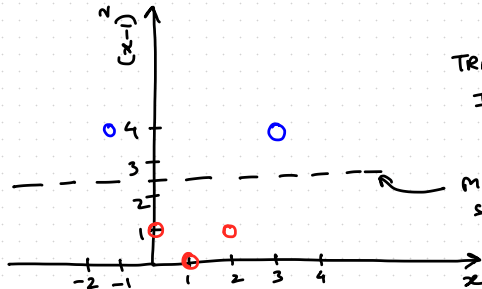


TRANSFORMED DATA  
IN  $\mathbb{R}^2$



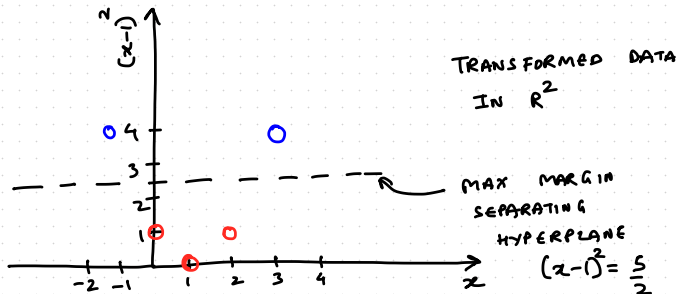
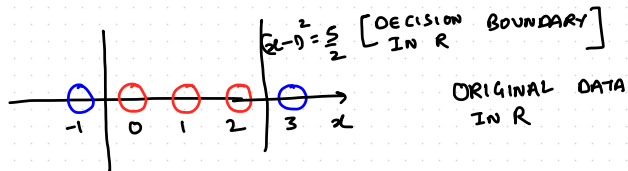


ORIGINAL DATA  
IN  $\mathbb{R}$

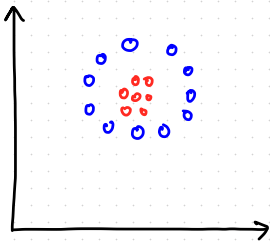


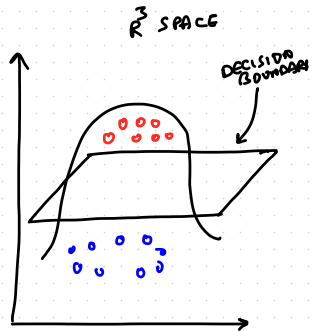
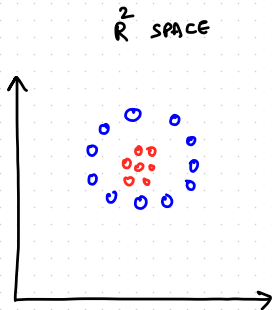
TRANSFORMED DATA  
IN  $\mathbb{R}^2$

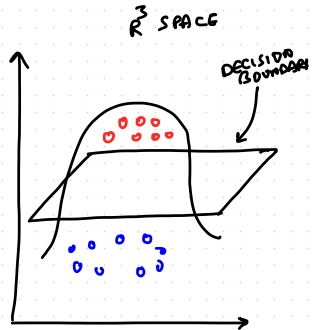
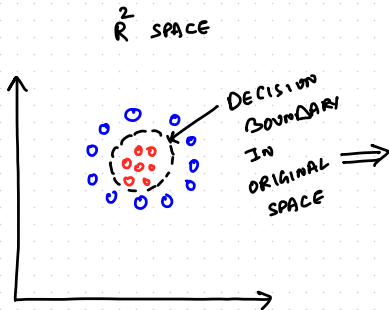
MAX MARGIN  
SEPARATING  
HYPERPLANE  
 $(x-1)^2 = \frac{5}{2}$



$\mathbb{R}^2$  SPACE







# Projection/Transformation Function

$$\phi : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^D$$

where,  $d$  = original dimension

$D$  = new dimension

In our example:

$$d = 1; D = 2$$

# From Linear to Kernel SVM

Linear SVM:

Maximize

$$L(\alpha) = \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^N \alpha_i \alpha_j y_i y_j \mathbf{x}_i \cdot \mathbf{x}_j$$

such that constraints are satisfied.



Transformation ( $\phi$ )



$$L(\alpha) = \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^N \alpha_i \alpha_j y_i y_j \phi(\mathbf{x}_i) \cdot \phi(\mathbf{x}_j)$$

# Steps

1. Compute  $\phi(\mathbf{x})$  for each point

$$\phi : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^D$$

Q. If  $D \gg d$

Both steps are expensive!



# Steps

1. Compute  $\phi(\mathbf{x})$  for each point

$$\phi : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^D$$

2. Compute dot products over  $\mathbb{R}^D$  space

Q. If  $D \gg d$

Both steps are expensive!

# The Kernel Trick

**Brilliant idea:** Can we compute  $K(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j)$  such that:

$$K(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j) = \phi(\mathbf{x}_i) \cdot \phi(\mathbf{x}_j)$$

**Without explicitly computing  $\phi$ !**

- $K(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j)$ : Simple function in original space

**Result:** Get non-linear classification power without computational cost!

# The Kernel Trick

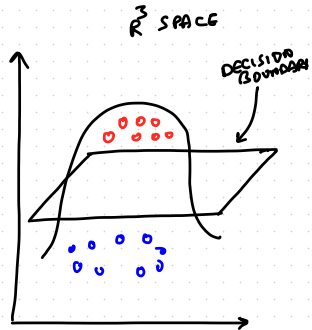
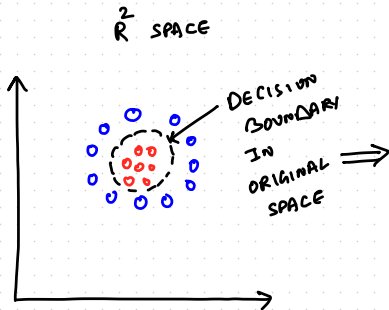
**Brilliant idea:** Can we compute  $K(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j)$  such that:

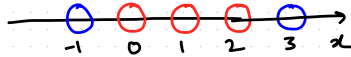
$$K(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j) = \phi(\mathbf{x}_i) \cdot \phi(\mathbf{x}_j)$$

**Without explicitly computing  $\phi$ !**

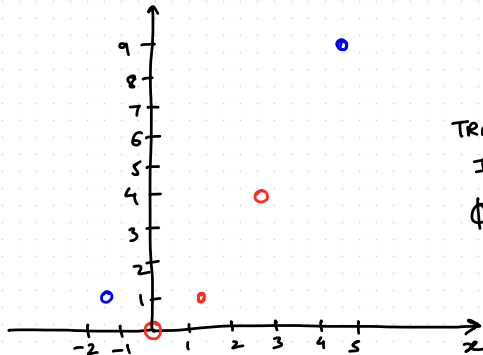
- $K(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j)$ : Simple function in original space
- $\phi(\mathbf{x}_i) \cdot \phi(\mathbf{x}_j)$ : Complex dot product in high-dimensional space

**Result:** Get non-linear classification power without computational cost!



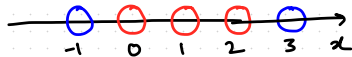


ORIGINAL DATA  
IN  $\mathbb{R}$

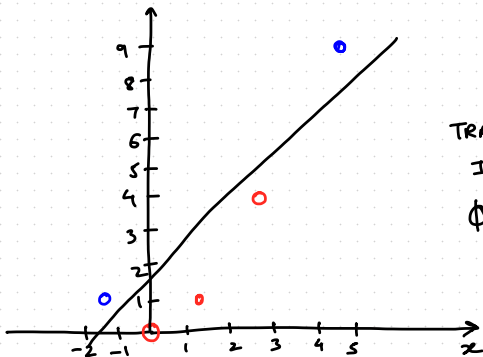


TRANSFORMED DATA  
IN  $\mathbb{R}^2$

$$\phi(x) = \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{2} x \\ x^2 \end{bmatrix}$$



ORIGINAL DATA  
IN  $\mathbb{R}$

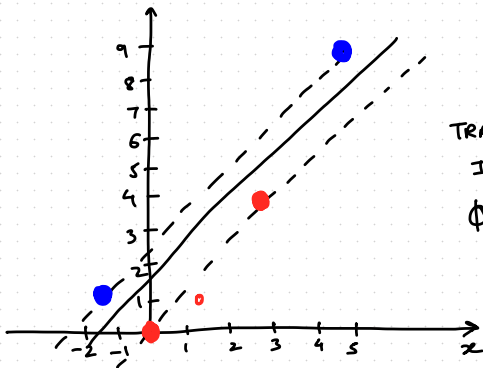


TRANSFORMED DATA  
IN  $\mathbb{R}^2$

$$\phi(x) = \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{2}x \\ x^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

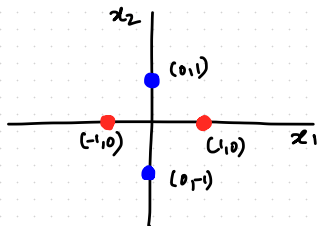


ORIGINAL DATA  
IN  $\mathbb{R}$

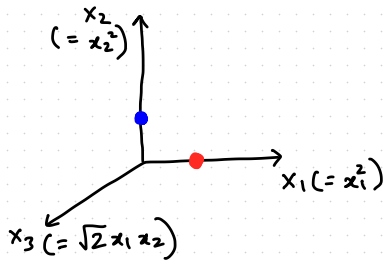
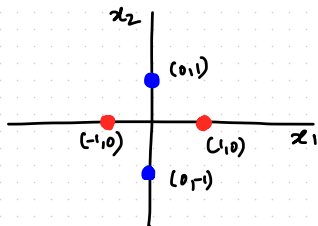


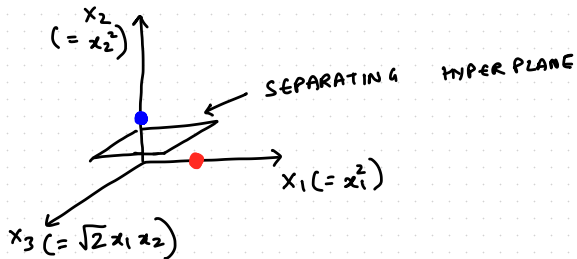
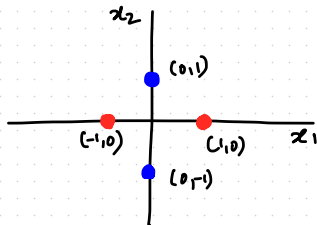
TRANSFORMED DATA  
IN  $\mathbb{R}^2$

$$\phi(x) = \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{2}x \\ x^2 \end{bmatrix}$$









# Kernel Trick

Q) Why did we use dual form?  
Kernels again!!

Primal form doesn't allow for the kernel trick  
 $K(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2)$  in dual and compute  $\phi(\mathbf{x})$  and then dot product  
in  $D$  dimensions

# Gram Matrix: (Positive Semi-Definite)

$$K(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j) = (1 + \mathbf{x}_i \cdot \mathbf{x}_j)^2$$

	$\mathbf{x}_1$	$\mathbf{x}_2$	$\mathbf{x}_3$	$\mathbf{x}_4$	$\mathbf{x}_5$	$\mathbf{x}_6$	$\mathbf{x}_7$
$\mathbf{x}_1$	24	8	0	0	8	24	48
$\mathbf{x}_2$	8	1	0	-1	0	...	
$\mathbf{x}_3$	0	...	...	...	...	...	...
$\mathbf{x}_4$	0						
$\mathbf{x}_5$	8						
$\mathbf{x}_6$	24						
$\mathbf{x}_7$	48						

# Common Kernel Functions

**Most frequently used kernels:**

**1. Linear:**  $K(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2) = \mathbf{x}_1 \cdot \mathbf{x}_2$

**Parameters:**

# Common Kernel Functions

## Most frequently used kernels:

1. **Linear:**  $K(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2) = \mathbf{x}_1 \cdot \mathbf{x}_2$
2. **Polynomial:**  $K(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2) = (C + \mathbf{x}_1 \cdot \mathbf{x}_2)^d$

## Parameters:

# Common Kernel Functions

## Most frequently used kernels:

1. **Linear:**  $K(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2) = \mathbf{x}_1 \cdot \mathbf{x}_2$
2. **Polynomial:**  $K(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2) = (\mathbf{c} + \mathbf{x}_1 \cdot \mathbf{x}_2)^d$
3. **RBF (Gaussian):**  $K(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2) = \exp(-\gamma \|\mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{x}_2\|^2)$

## Parameters:

# Common Kernel Functions

## Most frequently used kernels:

1. **Linear:**  $K(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2) = \mathbf{x}_1 \cdot \mathbf{x}_2$
2. **Polynomial:**  $K(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2) = (c + \mathbf{x}_1 \cdot \mathbf{x}_2)^d$
3. **RBF (Gaussian):**  $K(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2) = \exp(-\gamma \|\mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{x}_2\|^2)$

## Parameters:

- $c$ : constant term,  $d$ : degree (polynomial)



# Common Kernel Functions

## Most frequently used kernels:

1. **Linear:**  $K(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2) = \mathbf{x}_1 \cdot \mathbf{x}_2$
2. **Polynomial:**  $K(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2) = (c + \mathbf{x}_1 \cdot \mathbf{x}_2)^d$
3. **RBF (Gaussian):**  $K(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2) = \exp(-\gamma \|\mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{x}_2\|^2)$

## Parameters:

- $c$ : constant term,  $d$ : degree (polynomial)
- $\gamma$ : bandwidth parameter (RBF)

# Kernel Example: Polynomial Kernel

**Question:** For  $\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}$ , what is the feature space for

$$K(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}) = (1 + \mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{z})^3?$$

**Given:**  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^2$ , find dimension of  $\phi(\mathbf{x})$

**Expansion:**

$$\begin{aligned} K(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}) &= (1 + x_1 z_1 + x_2 z_2)^3 \\ &= \text{all terms of degree } \leq 3 \\ &= \phi(\mathbf{x}) \cdot \phi(\mathbf{z}) \end{aligned}$$

**Feature map:**  $\phi(\mathbf{x}) =$

$$[1, \sqrt{3}x_1, \sqrt{3}x_2, \sqrt{3}x_1^2, \sqrt{3}x_2^2, \sqrt{6}x_1x_2, x_1^3, x_2^3, \sqrt{3}x_1^2x_2, \sqrt{3}x_1x_2^2]$$

**Answer:**  $\phi(\mathbf{x}) \in \mathbb{R}^{10}$

# RBF Kernel: Infinite Dimensions

**Question:** What is the dimensionality of RBF kernel feature space?

**RBF Kernel:**

$$\begin{aligned}K(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}) &= \exp(-\gamma \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{z}\|^2) \\ &= \exp(-\gamma (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{z})^2)\end{aligned}$$

**Key insight:** Using Taylor series expansion

$$\exp(\alpha) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{\alpha^n}{n!} = 1 + \alpha + \frac{\alpha^2}{2!} + \frac{\alpha^3}{3!} + \dots$$

**Result:** RBF kernel corresponds to  $\infty$ -dimensional feature space!

**Amazing:** Infinite-dimensional classification with finite computation!

# Does RBF Involve Dot Product in Lower-Dimensional Space?

**Question:** Can we see the original dot product in RBF kernel?

Assuming  $\mathbf{x}$  is a one-dimensional vector, we can rewrite the RBF kernel as:

$$K(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}) = \exp(-\gamma \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{z}\|^2) = \exp(-\gamma(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{z})^2)$$

# Does RBF Involve Dot Product in Lower-Dimensional Space?

**Question:** Can we see the original dot product in RBF kernel?

Assuming  $x$  is a one-dimensional vector, we can rewrite the RBF kernel as:

$$K(x, z) = \exp(-\gamma \|x - z\|^2) = \exp(-\gamma (x - z)^2)$$

**Expanding the squared term:**

$$(x - z)^2 = x^2 - 2xz + z^2$$

# Does RBF Involve Dot Product in Lower-Dimensional Space?

**Question:** Can we see the original dot product in RBF kernel?

Assuming  $x$  is a one-dimensional vector, we can rewrite the RBF kernel as:

$$K(x, z) = \exp(-\gamma \|x - z\|^2) = \exp(-\gamma (x - z)^2)$$

**Expanding the squared term:**

$$(x - z)^2 = x^2 - 2xz + z^2$$

**Substituting back into the RBF kernel:**

$$\begin{aligned} K(x, z) &= \exp(-\gamma (x^2 - 2xz + z^2)) \\ &= \exp(-\gamma x^2) \cdot \exp(2\gamma xz) \cdot \exp(-\gamma z^2) \end{aligned}$$

**Key insight:** The middle term  $\exp(2\gamma xz)$  contains the dot product  $xz$  from the original space!

# SVM: Parametric vs Non-Parametric

**Question:** Is SVM parametric or non-parametric?

# SVM: Parametric vs Non-Parametric

**Question:** Is SVM parametric or non-parametric?

**Answer:** It depends on the kernel!

- **Parametric:** Linear and polynomial kernels



# SVM: Parametric vs Non-Parametric

**Question:** Is SVM parametric or non-parametric?

**Answer:** It depends on the kernel!

- **Parametric:** Linear and polynomial kernels
  - Fixed functional form

# SVM: Parametric vs Non-Parametric

**Question:** Is SVM parametric or non-parametric?

**Answer:** It depends on the kernel!

- **Parametric:** Linear and polynomial kernels
  - Fixed functional form
  - Number of parameters independent of training data size

# SVM: Parametric vs Non-Parametric

**Question:** Is SVM parametric or non-parametric?

**Answer:** It depends on the kernel!

- **Parametric:** Linear and polynomial kernels
  - Fixed functional form
  - Number of parameters independent of training data size
- **Non-parametric:** RBF kernel

# SVM: Parametric vs Non-Parametric

**Question:** Is SVM parametric or non-parametric?

**Answer:** It depends on the kernel!

- **Parametric:** Linear and polynomial kernels
  - Fixed functional form
  - Number of parameters independent of training data size
- **Non-parametric:** RBF kernel
  - Model complexity grows with data

# SVM: Parametric vs Non-Parametric

**Question:** Is SVM parametric or non-parametric?

**Answer:** It depends on the kernel!

- **Parametric:** Linear and polynomial kernels
  - Fixed functional form
  - Number of parameters independent of training data size
- **Non-parametric:** RBF kernel
  - Model complexity grows with data
  - Uses all support vectors for prediction

# RBF is Non-Parametric

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{y}(\mathbf{x}_{\text{test}}) &= \text{sign}(\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x}_{\text{test}} + b) \\ &= \text{sign}\left(\sum_{j=1}^{N_{\text{sv}}} \alpha_j y_j \mathbf{x}_j \cdot \mathbf{x}_{\text{test}} + b\right) \\ \hat{y}(\mathbf{x}_{\text{test}}) &= \text{sign}\left(\sum_{j=1}^N \alpha_j y_j K(\mathbf{x}_j, \mathbf{x}_{\text{test}}) + b\right)\end{aligned}$$

$\alpha_j = 0$  where  $j \neq \text{S.V.}$

# Interpretation of RBF

- $\hat{\mathbf{y}}(\mathbf{x}) = \text{sign}(\sum \alpha_i y_i \exp(-\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_i\|^2) + \mathbf{b})$

# Interpretation of RBF

- $\hat{\mathbf{y}}(\mathbf{x}) = \text{sign}(\sum \alpha_i y_i \exp(-\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_i\|^2) + \mathbf{b})$
- $-\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_i\|^2$  corresponds to radial term



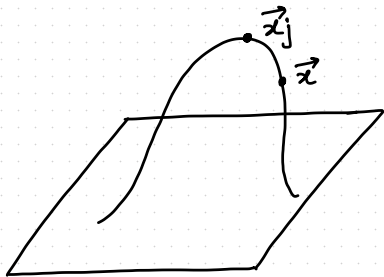
# Interpretation of RBF

- $\hat{\mathbf{y}}(\mathbf{x}) = \text{sign}(\sum \alpha_i y_i \exp(-\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_i\|^2) + \mathbf{b})$
- $-\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_i\|^2$  corresponds to radial term
- $\sum \alpha_i y_i$  is the activation component

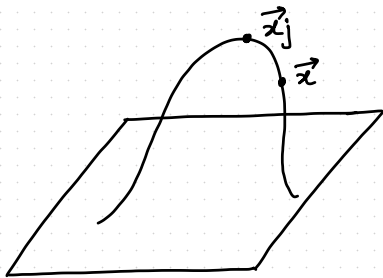
# Interpretation of RBF

- $\hat{\mathbf{y}}(\mathbf{x}) = \text{sign}(\sum \alpha_i y_i \exp(-\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_i\|^2) + \mathbf{b})$
- $-\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_i\|^2$  corresponds to radial term
- $\sum \alpha_i y_i$  is the activation component
- $\exp(-\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_i\|^2)$  is the basis component

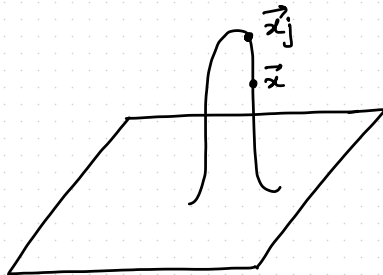
# RBF INTERPRETATION



## RBF INTERPRETATION



LOW  $\gamma$   
HIGH INFLUENCE OF  $\vec{x}_j$



HIGH  $\gamma$   
LOW INFLUENCE OF  $\vec{x}_j$

# Key Takeaways

- **Goal:** SVM finds optimal separating hyperplane by maximizing margin

# Key Takeaways

- **Goal:** SVM finds optimal separating hyperplane by maximizing margin
- **Math:** Dual formulation enables kernel trick

# Key Takeaways

- **Goal:** SVM finds optimal separating hyperplane by maximizing margin
- **Math:** Dual formulation enables kernel trick
- **Power:** Kernels enable non-linear classification without explicit mapping

# Key Takeaways

- **Goal:** SVM finds optimal separating hyperplane by maximizing margin
- **Math:** Dual formulation enables kernel trick
- **Power:** Kernels enable non-linear classification without explicit mapping
- **Popular kernels:** Linear, Polynomial, RBF (Gaussian)



# Key Takeaways

- **Goal:** SVM finds optimal separating hyperplane by maximizing margin
- **Math:** Dual formulation enables kernel trick
- **Power:** Kernels enable non-linear classification without explicit mapping
- **Popular kernels:** Linear, Polynomial, RBF (Gaussian)
- **Remarkable:** RBF kernel  $\leftrightarrow$  infinite-dimensional space

# Key Takeaways

- **Goal:** SVM finds optimal separating hyperplane by maximizing margin
- **Math:** Dual formulation enables kernel trick
- **Power:** Kernels enable non-linear classification without explicit mapping
- **Popular kernels:** Linear, Polynomial, RBF (Gaussian)
- **Remarkable:** RBF kernel  $\leftrightarrow$  infinite-dimensional space
- **Flexibility:** Parametric (linear/poly) or non-parametric (RBF)

# Key Takeaways

- **Goal:** SVM finds optimal separating hyperplane by maximizing margin
- **Math:** Dual formulation enables kernel trick
- **Power:** Kernels enable non-linear classification without explicit mapping
- **Popular kernels:** Linear, Polynomial, RBF (Gaussian)
- **Remarkable:** RBF kernel  $\leftrightarrow$  infinite-dimensional space
- **Flexibility:** Parametric (linear/poly) or non-parametric (RBF)
- **Efficiency:** Only support vectors matter for prediction

# Next Steps

- Soft-margin SVM for non-separable data

# Next Steps

- Soft-margin SVM for non-separable data
- Hyperparameter tuning ( $C$ ,  $\gamma$ )

# Next Steps

- Soft-margin SVM for non-separable data
- Hyperparameter tuning ( $C$ ,  $\gamma$ )
- Multi-class SVM extensions

# Next Steps

- Soft-margin SVM for non-separable data
- Hyperparameter tuning ( $C, \gamma$ )
- Multi-class SVM extensions
- Computational considerations and optimization

# Next Steps

- Soft-margin SVM for non-separable data
- Hyperparameter tuning ( $C$ ,  $\gamma$ )
- Multi-class SVM extensions
- Computational considerations and optimization
- Comparison with other classifiers